



## FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CENTERED CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE WITH REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS

### HIGHLIGHTED RESOURCES

#### 1. **Bringing Families to the Table: A Comparative Guide to Family Meetings in Child Welfare.**

Center for the Study of Social Policy. 26 pages. Washington, DC: Center for Community Partnerships in Child Welfare, March 2002.

This resource is available on the Web at:

[http://www.tapartnership.org/advisors/ChildWelfare/resources/Bringing\\_Families\\_to\\_the\\_Table.pdf?docID=1321](http://www.tapartnership.org/advisors/ChildWelfare/resources/Bringing_Families_to_the_Table.pdf?docID=1321).

"The expanding variety of approaches to family meetings now available in child welfare systems across the country causes a good deal of uncertainty about which model or combination of approaches to employ. How and when a particular meeting approach is most useful often confuses child welfare practitioners, family members, and community supports, both formal and informal. As one might imagine, communicating these approaches and expectations to practitioners and policymakers is challenging. Many field service workers have requested a guidebook to provide clarity. The goal of this paper is to provide that clarity...Administrators and policymakers may also find this paper useful." - Publisher's description

#### 2. **Child Abuse and Culture: Working with Diverse Families.** Fontes, Lisa Aronson. 268 pages. New York, NY: The Guilford Press, 2005.

Availability: This resource is available for purchase from the publisher's Web site at:

[http://www.guilford.com/cgi-bin/cartscript.cgi?page=pr/fontes.htm&dir=pp/ca&cart\\_id=268943.32611](http://www.guilford.com/cgi-bin/cartscript.cgi?page=pr/fontes.htm&dir=pp/ca&cart_id=268943.32611)

"Highly readable and accessible, this expertly written book provides a framework for culturally competent practice with children and families in child maltreatment cases. Numerous workable strategies and concrete examples are presented to help readers address cultural concerns at each stage of the assessment and intervention process. Professionals and students learn new ways of thinking about their own cultural viewpoints as they gain critical skills for:

- \* Maximizing the accuracy of assessments for physical and sexual abuse
- \* Overcoming language barriers in parent and child interviews
- \* Building rapport with clients from diverse cultural groups
- \* Respecting families' values and beliefs while ensuring children's safety
- \* Collaborating with clergy, extended family members, and others in the client's support system
- \* Creating an agency environment that is welcoming and respectful to all" - Publisher's description

#### 3. **Creating Safety and Stability for Children Exposed to Family Violence A Working Paper for Family to Family Sites.** Cohen, Elena, and Davis, Lonna. 24 pages. San Francisco, CA: Family Violence Prevention Fund, October 2006.

This resource is available on the Web at:

[http://endabuse.org/userfiles/file/Children\\_and\\_Families/Family\\_to\\_Family\\_Recommendations.pdf](http://endabuse.org/userfiles/file/Children_and_Families/Family_to_Family_Recommendations.pdf).

"The purpose of this issue brief is to provide information that can be used by F2F grantees to expand, improve and complement their current practices to respond to the needs of families experiencing domestic violence that are in the child welfare system. The dynamics of child maltreatment and domestic violence are varied and complex and no guideline can anticipate every individual child or family's unique circumstances. The safety and protection from imminent harm for all victims must always be the overriding concern." - Publisher's description

#### 4. **Culture and Child Protection.** Connolly, Marie, and Crichton-Hill, Yvonne, and Ward, Tony. 144 pages. London, UK: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2006.

This resource is available for purchase from the publisher's Web site at:

<http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book.php/isbn/9781843102700>. It may also be available through other

booksellers. "Providing services that are culturally relevant is an ongoing challenge for practitioners, managers, and policy-makers within the social services. Culture and Child Protection is a concise exploration of the close links between social service practices and cultural values which offers a culturally sensitive model of child protection practice. The authors demonstrate the ways in which a combination of personal, professional and societal attitudes often influence practice decisions. In a context where children from ethnic minorities dominate the welfare statistics of the Western economies, the authors argue against a reliance on rigid approaches to working with particular ethnic groups. They propose effective alternative strategies that will assist social workers in responding appropriately to diverse cultural needs and circumstances. Implications of cultural difference are also considered with respect to class, socio-economic group, gender and age, reinforcing the need to recognize broader interpretations of difference within practice. This book is full of integrated examples and case studies and also discusses wider practice issues, such as working with offenders, the impact of funding restraints and the dynamic of reflexivity in practice and supervision." - Publisher's description

**5. Family Group Decision Making: Communities Stopping Family Violence.** Pennell, Joan, and Burford, Gale. pages. Ottawa, Ontario: Health Canada, Family Violence Prevention Unit, 1998.

This resource is available in HTML format on the Web at: [http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/html/fvgroupdecision\\_e.html](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/html/fvgroupdecision_e.html). Additional copies of this brochure and details on how to obtain the companion video are available from: National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, Family Violence Prevention Unit, Health Issues Division, Public Health Agency of Canada, Health Canada, 9th Floor, Jeanne Mance Building Tunney's Pasture, A.L. # 1909D1, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 1B4, Canada. Telephone: 1-800-267-1291 or (613) 957-2938 Fax: (613) 941-8930 Explains Family Group Decision Making and methods for implementation.

**6. Family Voices.** International Institute for Restorative Practices, Family Power National Center on Family Group Decision Making. 18 minutes. Bethlehem, PA: International Institute for Restorative Practices, This resource is available for purchase from the publisher's Web site at:

[http://www.iirp.org/books\\_n\\_videos.php#familyvoices](http://www.iirp.org/books_n_videos.php#familyvoices). "Moving, candid, at times even humorous, this 18-minute video follows nine culturally, economically and geographically diverse American families on their journey of discovery of FGDM, from their initial fears, questions and hopes to their joy in seeing the process work. In the empowering spirit of restorative practices, Family Voices lets families speak for themselves. It's an ideal way to acquaint both families and professionals with FGDM." - Publisher's description

**7. FGDM: Increasing the Knowledge Base.** Protecting Children. v. 21, n.1. Englewood, CO: American Humane Association, 2007.

This resource is available for purchase from the publisher's Web site at:

[https://secure2.convio.net/aha/site/Ecommerce?store\\_id=3021&VIEW\\_CATALOG=true&FOLDER=1053&TYPE=&NAME=](https://secure2.convio.net/aha/site/Ecommerce?store_id=3021&VIEW_CATALOG=true&FOLDER=1053&TYPE=&NAME=). This issue of Protecting Children discusses the research and case studies on Family Group Decision Making (FGDM), an innovative approach to achieving child safety, permanency, and well-being, which resolves issues through family-centered planning sessions which are monitored and supported by public agency representatives. The first article explores the reasons why social workers have not embraced family-centered decision-making approaches and emphasizes the responsibility of the profession to empower users to participate in child welfare services. The second article reacts to the phenomenon of marginalizing fathers in the child welfare process and suggests methods to increase male attendance and participation in family group conferencing. The third article provides as a detailed case study to demonstrate the effective use of the complementary conferencing process, a combination of the traditional crisis-conference planning followed by a family group conference, to ensure the safety of a newborn child born addicted to methamphetamines. The fourth article shares a historical perspective on growth of FGDM expansion throughout the Pennsylvania child welfare system and covers the impact on traditional practice and gives some preliminary evaluation results. (IP-CW)

**8. Frequently Asked Questions About TDM.** Annie E. Casey Foundation Family to Family Initiative. 5 pages. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2005.

This resource is available on the Web at: <http://www.f2f.ca.gov/res/FAQsaboutTDM.pdf>.

Fact sheet on Team Decisionmaking.

**9. Immigration Dynamics in Team Decisionmaking Meetings (TDM) - Peer to Peer Discussion.**

Borelli, Ken, and Kinoshita, Sally, and Lincroft, Yali. 6 pages. California Family to Family Convening, 2006.

This resource is available on the Web at:

[http://www.brycs.org/documents/TDM\\_WKSHP\\_Immig%20Dynamics\\_in\\_TDM\\_110306v3.pdf](http://www.brycs.org/documents/TDM_WKSHP_Immig%20Dynamics_in_TDM_110306v3.pdf).

"The goal of this workshop is to sort out key issues for working with immigration families in child welfare and discuss the techniques and process of integrating immigration concerns with family dynamics. The importance of resources and support to families as prevention strategy so that child welfare problems can be solved at the lowest level of intervention was stressed throughout the workshop." - Publisher's description

**10. Increasing the Cultural Responsiveness of Family Group Conferencing.** Waites, Cheryl, and Macgowan, Mark J., and Pennell, Joan, and Carlton-LaNey, Iris, and Weil, Marie. Social Work. v.49 n.2. p. 291-301. Washington, DC: National Association of Social Workers, April 2004.

This resource is available for purchase from the publisher's Web site at:

<http://www.naswpress.org/publications/journals/index.html>.

"Child welfare struggles to manage child abuse and neglect and to seek permanency for children, while being culturally responsive to the communities it serves. Family group conferencing, piloted in New Zealand and now used in the United States and other countries, is a strengths-based model that brings together families and their support systems to develop and carry out a plan that protects, nurtures, and safeguards children and other family members. This article describes the model and a culturally competent method for assessing and adapting the model for the African American, Cherokee, and Latino/Hispanic communities in North Carolina." - Publisher's description

**11. Manual for Coordinators and Communities: The Organization and Practice of Family Group Decision Making.** Burford, Gale, and Pennell, Joan, and MacLeod, Susan. Newfoundland, New Zealand: Memorial University of Newfoundland School of Social Work, August 1995.

This resource is available in PDF and HTML formats on the Web at:

<http://social.chass.ncsu.edu/jpennell/fgdm/Manual/>. "This manual is intended for community or government groups who are interested in instituting family group conferences and for individuals who will be coordinating or participating in family group conferences. It is essential for considerable ground work to be done in working up to the use of this model in the community and with government. In Chapter Two, we summarize what we think needs to be done by way of preparation to use the model including planning and start-up activities as well as setting up an evaluation from the beginning. To provide guidance to coordinators and others involved, chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6 describe the practice from referral through to what is done after the conference is over, and Chapter 7 is a sample family group plan. The appendices include further information useful for developing such a project and holding family group conferences." - Publisher's description

**12. Pathways to Permanence: Introduction to Family Group Conferencing and Concurrent Planning.** Dublin, OH: Dave Thomas Foundation, This resource is available free to order from the

Foundation Web site at: <http://www.davethomasfoundationforadoption.org/>. Provides a video resource for exposing social services professionals to three alternative methods for improving the safe, timely, and permanent placement of child welfare cases. Passage of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) in 1997 focused attention on correcting the problems that occur when children "slip through the cracks" of the foster care system. This video, narrated by a young woman who spent a decade moving among 14 foster homes, examines (1) family group conferencing, (2) concurrent case planning, and (3) mediation. Family group conferencing, usually organized by social service providers, empowers the significant people in a child's life - adult family members, ministers, teachers, and therapists - to discuss the family's

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strengths and to develop a plan to offer a viable and permanent solution for the child. Concurrent case planning, a method authorized by ASFA, allows social services personnel and the court system to attempt reunification of the parents and children within six to twelve months, while simultaneously planning for adoption. This method potentially reduces the attachment disorders reported in many foster care children as well as shortening the timeline to achieve adoption. Mediation, a court-organized case management tool, uses informal, non-adversarial, yet structured meetings between all participants to resolve issues. The San Francisco Juvenile courts reported that mediation resolved 78-82 percent of cases. (IP)

**13. Pathways to Permanency: Family Group Decision Making.** National Center on Family Group Decision Making. 10 pages. Englewood, CO: American Humane Association, This resource is available on the Web at: <http://www.americanhumane.org/assets/docs/protecting-children/PC-fgdm-pathways-video.doc>. This guide accompanies the "Pathways to Permanence" video.

**14. A Perspective on the Origins of Family Group Conferencing.** Connolly, Marie. FGDM Issues in Brief. 3 pages. Englewood, CO: American Humane, 2004.  
This resource is available on the Web at: <http://www.americanhumane.org/assets/docs/protecting-children/PC-fgdm-ib-fgc-origins.pdf>. "The purpose of this brief discussion is to trace the ideas and developments that were fundamental to the building of shared decision-making practice with families in Aotearoa New Zealand." - Publisher's description

**15. Research Review: Family Group Decision-Making: A Promising Practice in Need of More Programme Theory and Research.** Crampton, David. Child & Family Social Work. v.12, n.2. pp. 202-209. Blackwell Publishing, May 2007.

This resource is available for purchase from the publisher's Web site at: <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=1356-7500&site=1>. "The use of family group decision-making (FGDM) in child protection is rapidly increasing throughout the world. This paper provides a brief overview of the research evidence from 1996 to 2005 and proposes future directions for both practice and research. The purpose of the review is to help move the discussion of FGDM from a promising practice to an evidence-based practice. The research review considers what is known about the child welfare outcomes of FGDM. The paper then turns to research concerning which families are offered FGDM and which FGDM processes appear to be important. The paper concludes with specific suggestions for developing FGDM programmes that can improve child protection practice and then testing these specific programmes in rigorous trials." - Publisher's description

**16. Team Decisionmaking: Involving the Family and Community in Child Welfare Decisions - Part Two: Building Community Partnerships in Child Welfare.** DeMuro, Paul, and Rideout, Patricia. 34 pages. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2001.

This resource is available on the Web at: [http://www.aecf.org/upload/pdf/files/familytofamily/f2f\\_tdm\\_sept\\_02.pdf](http://www.aecf.org/upload/pdf/files/familytofamily/f2f_tdm_sept_02.pdf). "Part of the Family to Family Tools for Rebuilding Foster Care series. Child placement decisions are the most difficult decisions that an overwhelmed child welfare agency has to make. In order to address the challenges associated with placement, sites in Casey's Family to Family initiative have designed and tested a new approach called "team decisionmaking." This brief defines and portrays the benefits that team decisionmaking has on children and families involved with the child welfare system." - Publisher's description

**17. The Role of the Community Representative at TDM Meetings.** Annie E. Casey Foundation Family to Family Initiative. 2 pages. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation, This resource is available on the Web at: <http://www.f2f.ca.gov/res/RoleofCommunityRepresentative.pdf>. Identifies different types of TDM community representatives and their roles in the meeting.